

Last week I was appointed to the new Military Quality of Life and Veterans Affairs Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee. The subcommittee will govern funding for all programs under the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, along with the pay, health care and housing programs under the Secretary of Defense. During the last four years, I have led efforts to combine VA and Defense health care programs. With this new assignment, we can accelerate the creation of a new VA/Navy hospital in North Chicago to ensure the veterans of northern Illinois receive the health care they need.